

**Division of Medical Assistance**  
**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Office of Medicaid**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Under the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, section 16 and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Division of Medical Assistance (the Division) will hold a remote public hearing on Monday, May 22, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. relative to the emergency adoption of amendments to the following regulations.

**130 CMR 506.000: Health Care Reform: MassHealth: Financial Requirements**  
**130 CMR 520.000: MassHealth: Financial Eligibility**  
**130 CMR 450.000: Administrative and Billing Regulations, and**  
**101 CMR 613.00: Health Safety Net Eligible Services**

Federal law establishes requirements around cost-sharing. Effective May 1, 2023, through March 31, 2024, these proposed amendments will waive all cost sharing for MassHealth members and for the Health Safety Net.

The purpose of the change is to eliminate copayments during the unwinding of the federal public health emergency (PHE). This will ensure that the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) complies with federal requirements barring increased copayments for members before redeterminations are completed after the end of the federal PHE. The Health Safety Net will align with MassHealth for reasons of operational efficiency. There is no impact on or waiver of copayments for individuals covered by the Children's Medical Security Plan.

The change will also update the affected regulations to reflect that copayments are permanently waived for 12 months post-pregnancy.

The regulatory changes will go into effect as an emergency on May 1, 2023. The proposed amendments are expected to increase annual aggregate MassHealth expenditures by approximately \$4,700,000 and for the Health Safety Net by \$800,000. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

EOHHS will be filing a state plan amendment to implement these changes, and the public may comment on the state plan amendment as well as the regulatory amendments themselves.

To register to testify at the hearing and to get instructions on how to join the hearing online, go to [www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings). To join the hearing by phone, call (646) 558-8656 and enter meeting ID 935 397 8200# when prompted.

You may also submit written testimony instead of, or in addition to, live testimony. To submit written testimony, please email your testimony to [masshealthpublicnotice@mass.gov](mailto:masshealthpublicnotice@mass.gov) as an attached Word or PDF document or as text within the body of the email with the name of the regulation in the subject line. All written testimony must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by email should mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 22, 2023. The Division specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the emergency regulation may, go to [www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings) or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by email at [ADAAccommodations@mass.gov](mailto:ADAAccommodations@mass.gov) or by phone at (617) 847-3468 (TTY: (617) 847-3788 for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled). Please allow two weeks to schedule sign language interpreters.

The Division may adopt a final, revised version of the emergency regulation taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHealth website at [www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings](http://www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings).

April 28, 2023